

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-8 (canceled)

9. (currently amended) A remote data processing system comprising:  
a data receiver for receiving a data message;  
a remote software module arranged to receive the data message from the data  
receiver, the remote software module including at least a first stage software component  
cascaded with a second stage software component; and  
a fault detector associated with the first software stage component and the  
second software stage component to detect a fault in the remote software module by detecting  
whether the data message or a derivative thereof flows entirely through at least one of the first  
stage software component and the second stage software component, wherein the fault  
detector has logical connections including a connection with an input of the first software  
stage component, an output of the first software stage component, and an output of second  
software stage component and The system according to claim 8 wherein the fault detector  
identifies the first software stage as a faulty software component if the data message is present  
at an input of the first software stage, but not the output of the first software stage.

10. (currently amended) A remote data processing system comprising:  
a data receiver for receiving a data message;  
a remote software module arranged to receive the data message from the data

receiver, the remote software module including at least a first stage software component cascaded with a second stage software component; and

a fault detector associated with the first software stage component and the second software stage component to detect a fault in the remote software module by detecting whether the data message or a derivative thereof flows entirely through at least one of the first stage software component and the second stage software component, wherein the fault detector has logical connections including a connection with an input of the first software stage component, an output of the first software stage component, and an output of second software stage component and ~~The system according to claim 8~~ wherein the fault detector identifies the second software stage as a faulty software component if the data message is present at an input of the second software stage, but not the output of the second software stage.

11. (currently amended) A remote data processing system comprising:  
a data receiver for receiving a data message;  
a remote software module arranged to receive the data message from the data receiver, the remote software module including at least a first stage software component cascaded with a second stage software component; and  
a fault detector associated with the first software stage component and the second software stage component to detect a fault in the remote software module by detecting whether the data message or a derivative thereof flows entirely through at least one of the first stage software component and the second stage software component, wherein the fault detector has logical connections including a connection with an input of the first software stage component, an output of the first software stage component, and an output of second

software stage component and The system according to claim 8 wherein the fault detector identifies the first software stage as a faulty software component if a derivative of the data message is present at an input of the first software stage, but not the output of the first software stage.

12. (currently amended) A remote data processing system comprising:  
a data receiver for receiving a data message;  
a remote software module arranged to receive the data message from the data receiver, the remote software module including at least a first stage software component cascaded with a second stage software component; and  
a fault detector associated with the first software stage component and the second software stage component to detect a fault in the remote software module by detecting whether the data message or a derivative thereof flows entirely through at least one of the first stage software component and the second stage software component, wherein the fault detector has logical connections including a connection with an input of the first software stage component, an output of the first software stage component, and an output of second software stage component and The system according to claim 8 wherein the fault detector identifies the second software stage as a faulty software component if a derivative of the data message is present at an input of the second software stage, but not the output of the second software stage.

Claims 13-21 (canceled)

22. (previously presented) A method of monitoring a business-to-business system, the method comprising:

transmitting a status code from a base data processing system to a remote data processing system via a communications network;

receiving the status code at a data receiver in the remote data processing system;

inputting the status code into a remote software module of the remote data processing system;

determining whether the remote software module provides a logical data path of continuity to the status code;

outputting the status code from an output of the remote software module if the determining determines that the remote software module provides a logical data path of continuity to the status code; and

transmitting the outputted status code back to the base data processing system via the communications network as feedback indicative of the proper end-to-end continuity of communications in a business-to-business environment.

23. (original) The method according to claim 22, the method further comprising:

storing the status code from an output of the remote software module as a dummy transaction in the database; and

retrieving the status code as the dummy transaction in the database and feeding the retrieved status code for transmission to the base data processing system if the database provides a logical data path of continuity for the status code.